

Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 EB-11 AID-20 IO-13 RSR-01 /153 W

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P R 241105Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5049

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMCONSUL DANANG

UNCLAS SAIGON 13365

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJECT: THIEU SPEAKS ON ECONOMIC SITUATION IN VUNG TAU JULY 21

REF : FBIS S240355

1. WISH TO CALL DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION TO THE ABOVE-REFERENCED FBIS SUMMARIZING A JULY 21 SPEECH BY PRESIDENT THIEU IN VUNG TAU. ITEM APPEARED IN JULY 24 EDITION OF SAIGON DAILY DAN CHU, WHICH IS THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE OFFICIALLY-BACKED DEMOCRACY PARTY.

2. PRESIDENT THIEU EMPHASIZED THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION. HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE GVN WOULD HENCEFORTH "BLOCKADE" AREAS "UNDER TEMPORARY COMMUNIST CONTROL TO PREEVENT THE MOVEMENT OF RICE, SUGAR, AND MILK INTO THESE AREAS." HE STRESSED THAT COMMUNISTS IN BUILDING THEIR BASES IN SVN ARE DRAINING NEEDED COMMODITIES FROM THE PEOPLE IN GVN-CONTROLLED AREAS AND HE ALSO MENTIONED THE PROSPECT OF A POSSIBLE WORLDWIDE RICE SHORTAGE THAT THIS MUST BE STOPPED AND CALLED FOR A MAJOR EFFORT TO MAKE SVN SELF-SUFFICIENT IN RICE WITHIN "TWO OR THREE YEARS."

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3. PRESIDENT THIEU ALSO SPOKE TO THE ISSUE OF THE RECOGNITION OF THE PRG BY OTHER NATIONS. HE INSISTED THERE IS ONLY ONE LEGAL GOVERNMENT IN SVN. HE SAID THE GVN WOULD UNDERTAKE "APPROPRIATE MEASURES REGARDING ANY COUNTRY WHICH RECOGNIZES THE (NATIONAL LIBERATION) FRONT."

4. THE PRESIDENT, WHO WAS ADDRESSING A GROUP OF DEMOCRACY PARTY CADRE, ALSO DISCUSSED THE TASKS OF THE PARTY AND URGED IT TO ASSIST IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE REVOLUTION, WHICH WILL ERADICATE CORRUPTION AND OTHER SOCIAL ILLS AND STRANGTHEN THE COUNTRY IN THE ANTI-COMMUNIST STRUGGLE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON13365
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730714/aaaaajyq.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 FBIS S240355
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Dec-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <06-Feb-2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THIEU SPEAKS ON ECONOMIC SITUATION IN VUNG TAU JULY 21
TAGS: PINT, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005